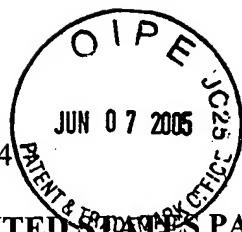


Docket No.: 056937-0094



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277
Kazuyoshi NISHI : Confirmation Number: 8796
Application No.: 10/677,336 : Group Art Unit: 2816
Filed: October 03, 2003 : Examiner: Cunningham, Terry D.
For: BIAS POTENTIAL GENERATING APPARATUS

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants received the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance ("Statement") with the Notice of Allowance and Allowability dated March 29, 2005 regarding the above identified application. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's Statement on Reasons for Allowance. Entry of that Statement into the record should not be construed as any agreement with or acquiescence by Applicants in the stated reasoning.

In the Statement, the Examiner sets forth that "the claims now recite a specific bias potential generating circuiting having active and standby states further including a 'drive circuit' that is 'capable of changing the predetermined time period' of operation of the 'standby potential outputting circuit.'" However, such wording in the Statement does not precisely correspond to the language of claim 1. Specifically, claim 1 recites a potential restoration circuit for outputting a potential having a level different from that of the standby potential to the output node for a

predetermined time period at the timing of transfer from power save mode to operation mode, and a drive control circuit connect to the potential restoration circuit capable of changing the predetermined time period. Accordingly, the drive control circuit is not capable of changing the predetermined time period of operation of the "standby potential outputting circuit," but is capable of changing the predetermined time period of operation of the "potential restoration circuit."

It is respectfully submitted that the allowed claims should be entitled the broadest reasonable interpretation and broadest range of equivalents that are appropriate in light of the language of the claims, the supporting disclosure and Applicants' prosecution of the claims, without reference to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

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